Bulletin August, 1988, National Institute of Virology, Pune have suggested that the following parameters need to be considered for the control of Japanese Encephalitis:

(i) Vaccination of the population at risk.

(ii) Immunization of pigs which serve as the amplifiers of the virus.

(iii) Vector control measures.

(iv) Public health measures and community participation.

(v) Diagnosis and patient care in hospitals.

According to the information received from the State Health Authorities, cases of Japanese Encephalitis have been reported from the States of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar; Goa; Karnataka, Manipur, Tamil Nadu Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. During 1988, 5430 cases and 1785 deaths due to Japanese Encephalitis have been reported from these States so far.

The measure undertaken at present to control the spread of disease are as under:—

1. Symptomatic treatment is being given to all cases of Japanese Encephalitis. Special arrangements have been made for free transportation of affected persons to hospitals.

2. Insecticidal spray has been carried out with BHC and DDT in the affected districts and antilarval operation has been intensified.

3. Fogging operations with Malathion have been undertaken in the affected areas.

4. State Governments have been advised to stock of common medicines for treatment of Japanese Encephalitis have been ensured in all the affected districts.

5. Adequate health education measures have been taken through publicity with the help of different media for eliciting community participation in control and prevention.

Research on AIDS

1545. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has justified the thrust on research on AIDS because the disease is infectious and affect the general public;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to boost the research on AIDS;

(c) if so, whether the WHO have given any kind of help to India to make research on AIDS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research have initiated several research activities on AIDS.

(c) and (d) The WHO has assisted in training of scientific personnel from India in research laboratories abroad on several aspects of TIV infection, management and treatment of AIDS cases.

Conference of State Chief Secretaries in Panchayati Raj System

1546. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when the Conference of State Chief Secretaries was held to discuss and make recommendations about the Panchayati Raj System in the country and what were the recommendations made therein; and